



**94TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY**  
**State of Illinois**  
**2005 and 2006**  
**HB3684**

Introduced 2/24/2005, by Rep. James H. Meyer

**SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:**

New Act  
30 ILCS 105/5.640 new

Creates the Illinois Universal Broadband Act. Establishes the Illinois Universal Broadband Commission (IUBC) in order to expand broadband service throughout Illinois, with the eventual goal of providing 100% service to all U.S. census tracts located within the State. Authorizes the IUBC to make revolving loans from the Illinois Universal Broadband Fund to private-sector entities for the provision of broadband service to underserved areas. Amends the State Finance Act to create the Illinois Universal Broadband Fund.

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FISCAL NOTE ACT  
MAY APPLY

1 AN ACT concerning regulation.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**  
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 1. Short title. This Act may be cited as the  
5 Illinois Universal Broadband Act.

6 Section 5. Definitions. In this Act:

7 "Broadband" means a transmission facility and related  
8 infrastructure and equipment having a bandwidth capable of  
9 simultaneously transmitting multiple channels of data and  
10 information, including, but not limited to, voice, video,  
11 audio, and digital content from the Internet to an end user.

12 "Fund" means the Illinois Universal Broadband Fund.

13 "IUBC" means the Illinois Universal Broadband Commission.

14 "Underserved area" means any U.S. census tract without  
15 wired access to broadband service.

16 Section 10. Illinois Universal Broadband Commission. The  
17 Illinois Universal Broadband Commission is established in  
18 order to expand broadband service throughout Illinois, with the  
19 eventual goal of providing 100% service to all U.S. census  
20 tracts located within the State. The IUBC shall consist of 6  
21 members as follows:

22 (1) one member appointed by the Speaker of the House;

23 (2) one member appointed by the House Minority Leader;

24 (3) one member appointed by the President of the  
25 Senate;

26 (4) one member appointed by the Senate Minority Leader;

27 (5) one member appointed by the Governor;

28 (6) one member appointed by the Chief Executive Officer  
29 of the single largest telecommunications provider in  
30 Illinois as measured by gross sales of service reported to  
31 the Illinois Commerce Commission.

1           The term of each of member shall be as follows, as  
2 determined by the members by lot: 2 members shall serve for 1  
3 year, 2 members shall serve for 2 years, 1 member shall serve  
4 for 3 years, and 1 member shall serve for 4 years. All  
5 subsequently appointed members shall serve 4-year terms,  
6 except that appointments to fill a vacancy of the initial term  
7 shall complete the term of the initial member that vacated the  
8 office. The members shall elect a chairperson and a secretary  
9 from among the members.

10           Section 15. Powers. The IUBC has the following powers:

- 11           (1) To borrow money under its corporate name.  
12           (2) To start up and operate a broadband service  
13 expansion program.  
14           (3) To monitor and administer loans from the Illinois  
15 Universal Broadband Fund.  
16           (4) To hire an executive director and permanent staff.

17           Section 20. Illinois Universal Broadband Fund. The  
18 Illinois Universal Broadband Fund is created as a special fund  
19 in the State treasury. Subject to appropriation, the IUBC shall  
20 make revolving loans from the Fund to private-sector entities  
21 for the provision of broadband service to underserved areas.  
22 The rate of interest to be charged on those loans shall not  
23 exceed the most recent rate of market interest posted by the  
24 mean of all quasi-independent entities issuing debt bearing the  
25 name and moral obligation of the State in their corporate  
26 names.

27           Section 90. The State Finance Act is amended by adding  
28 Section 5.640 as follows:

29           (30 ILCS 105/5.640 new)

30           Sec. 5.640. The Illinois Universal Broadband Fund.